

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph 0086 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

FIG.—9—9(a)-9(o) are schematic representations of the first part of slab lifting sequence.

Please amend paragraph 0087 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

FIG.—10—10(a)-10(j) are schematic representations of the rest of the slab lifting sequence.

Please add a paragraph after paragraph 0094 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

FIG. 17: Is blown up view of drive assembly 8 as shown in Fig 9.

Please add a paragraph after paragraph 0116 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

The shaft, strut and back props can have removable feet 19 as shown in FIG. 9 (l)-(o) and FIG. 10 (d)-(f)-(s), (t) & (u). Feet 19 are designed and dimensioned to cover any slab aperture and provide adequate strength to spread any jack loading away from the aperture and into the slab.

Please amend the paragraph 0108 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

Each jack 2A-2D as shown in FIGS. 3-9 and 17 include a shaft 12 and ball screw 9, a drive assembly 8, a hanger assembly 15 and a support device comprises restraint member 7. The jack is self climbing jack whereby a slab 20 can be lifted by a hanger assembly 15 and the jack self climbs afterwards. The drive assembly 8 can include a variable speed drive which drives the ball screw 9 by rotating in one direction to raise the jack during self climbing or in the opposite direction to lift a slab with the connected hanger assembly 15, with respect to the shaft such that in use when the jack has climbed to raise a slab, the support device supports the shaft/jack to prevent toppling and provide stability. Each shaft 12 comprises a pair of columns 12a and 12b on either side of a ball screw, the ball screw being supported by a spherical roller bearing 201 mounted in a top plate 203, thus bridging the columns.

Please amend the paragraph 0113 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

Each jack has pivoting means such that in use each jack can accommodate displacement of the jack whereby there is a minimum transfer of moment. The pivoting means comprises at least two pivoting mechanisms ~~11 and 13 & 14~~. One being located

centrally under the hanger 15 on top of the ball screw nut—10  
106 when connected to the shaft 12 and a pair of opposing pivoting devices 13 & 14 located at the base of the hangers closest to the slab being lifted or plate 18. The jack includes a back prop 33 to be used to support the floor below the strut 32. Other pivot mechanisms can also be provided to reduce any moment that could be created within each jack.

Please amend the paragraph 0114 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

When climbing the jack we need a device that prevents the bearing on top of the ball screw nut from acting in tension. This can be solved by a plate or other supplementary tensile device such as two opposing tensile devices. The plate 18 can be added to the underside of the nut—10106 so that the weight of the jack can be transferred on to the nut from the floor during lifting. This avoids the bearing on top of the nut acting in tension during climbing. As an alternative to the plate other devices are also possible such as beams or frames.

Please amend the paragraph 0152 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

As shown in FIG. 3, there exists a ground floor slab—5  
55, on to which a concrete slab 20 is formed with a plurality of apertures (not labelled) therethrough. A number of shafts 12 are

positioned through said apertures and contacting said ground floor slab—5 55. Boxing 6 is provided in preparation for the pouring of an additional slab in co-operation with preparation for the lifting of the slab 20, as the following will further explain.

Please amend the paragraph 0153 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

As shown in FIGS. 4, 9 and 10, a gearbox/motor/drive assembly 8 can be axially positioned at the top of each shaft 12 to drive the ball screw 9 to raise or lower a hanger assembly 15 with respect to the shaft 12 and hence raise or lower the slab 20 relative to the lower floor slab—5 55. The shaft 12 can be any suitable supporting member that enables the trailing restraint to be accommodated therein. For example rectangular hollow section (RHS), tube, hollow box section or a frame.

Please amend the paragraph 0172 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

a)—set up boxing for slab S1 on base 1 (see FIG. 9(a), schematic a+);

Fig. 9(b) pour slab S1;

Fig. 9(c)e)—place jack in place and attach hangers 15;

Please amend the paragraph 0174 as in the printed

publication version of the Specification as follows:

remove boxing and relocate to top of slab S1

Figs. 9(d)-(e) ~~d), e)~~—pre-load jack and then lift slab 1 with boxing on top with hangers 15 being in Tension;

Fig. 9(f) ~~f)~~—pour slab S2 on top of slab S1 followed by putting ground floor walls/columns 50. Walls 50 can be placed before pouring slab 2 or afterwards;

Fig. 9(g) ~~g)~~—put new boxing for slab S3;

Fig. 9(h) ~~h)~~—attach strut 32 to base of jack 2 on ground or base slab with foot;

Please amend the paragraph 0174 as in the printed publication version of the Specification as follows:

Figs. 9(i)-(l) ~~i) l)~~—climb jack up to next level (first floor) without moving any slabs leaving strut in place from ground to jack (hangers in compression while ball screw in tension); trailing restraint automatically slidably drops down from inside each jack to extend to floor directly below whereby the jack is laterally supported so it will not fall over;

Figs. 9(m)-(o) ~~m) n) o)~~—once ground floor columns cured, release hanger from slab S1 to be under slab S2; restablish hangers and pre-load and then lift slab S2 to second floor with boxing for slab S3;

Fig. 10(a) ~~p)~~—pour slab S3 and place boxing on top for slab S4; fit columns to first floor under slab S2 before or after this

pour; strut still in place with trailing restraint;

Fig. 10(b) q)—prepare to climb jack and struts; position back prop—10;

Fig. 10(c) r)—connect strut to back-prop and climb jack;

Fig. 10(d) s)—finish climbing the jack until strut foot inserted and back prop foot also inserted; strut and back prop are fully extended; trailing restraint automatically follows;

Fig. 10(e) t)—prepare for next floor; Fig. 10(f) u)—shows trailing restraint in place;

Fig. 10(g) v)—lift third floor ie slab S3; Fig. 10(h) w)—shows trailing restraint in place;

10(i)–(j) x) y)—walls 50 put in and pour slab S4 and climb/raise jack and strut and back prop whereby back prop is in the first floor

Alternatively--set up--install nuts for the hangers and through-bolt for a jack in a ground floor slab or base slab;